



Natural Resources in DoD

Current Issues and Program Priorities



L. Peter Boice
Deputy Director, Natural Resources

CURRENT HOT ISSUE



Candidate Species

Candidate Species Designations

BACKGROUND

- ▶ Center for Biological Diversity and Wild Earth Guardians filed suit with USFWS on 757 species
- ▶ Judge approved settlement September 10, 2011
- ▶ USFWS agreed to:
 - A 6-year schedule for final listing decisions on 251 species on the candidate list
 - Developing initial findings on 506 other species
- ▶ Formal data call to DoD Components
 - Key species
 - Level of concern
 - Information available

LEVEL OF CONCERN DEFINITIONS

- ▶ Red – Significant potential to impact military readiness. Listing/critical habitat designation (CHD) would make at least some mission areas NOT mission capable.
- ▶ Orange – Moderate potential to impact military readiness. Listing/CHD would make at least some mission areas only partially mission capable. The range is partially mission capable.
- ▶ Yellow – Minimal potential to impact military readiness. Listing/CHD could make at least some mission areas only partially mission capable in the future
- ▶ White (Blank) – No known impact on military

LEVEL OF CONCERN

SUMMARY RESULTS

LEVEL OF CONCERN	ARMY	NAVY	MARINE CORPS	AIR FORCE	TOTAL
RED	6	0	1	1	8
ORANGE	25	6	1	3	29
YELLOW	45	38	3	4	71
TOTALS	72	43	5	6	110

KEY SPECIES IDENTIFIED

- ▶ Red knot (3 Military Services)
- ▶ Greater sage grouse (3)
- ▶ Washington ground squirrel (2)
- ▶ Taylor's checkerspot butterfly
- ▶ Streaked horned lark
- ▶ Roy prairie pocket gopher
- ▶ Louisiana pine snake
- ▶ Lesser prairie chicken

TYPES OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR USFWS

We may be able to avoid listing some species by providing USFWS with information that may inform the listing decision process.

- ▶ 1 – Status of species
- ▶ 2 – Trend analysis
- ▶ 3 – Survey/monitoring information available
- ▶ 4 – Habitat requirements
- ▶ 5 – Actions being taken to manage habitat and/or species
- ▶ 6 – Known threats

INFORMATION AVAILABLE SPECIFICS

- ▶ Total data elements (for each candidate species, by installation) – 248
- ▶ At least some information available – 226
- ▶ Monitoring information available – 137
- ▶ Actions being taken to manage – 122
- ▶ Threat information available – 68
- ▶ All information types available – 16

ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED IN INSTALLATION INRMP?

STATUS	ARMY	NAVY	MARINE CORPS	AIR FORCE	TOTAL
YES	47	54	3	5	109
NO	68	43	3	2	116

NEXT STEPS

- ▶ Provide information, as appropriate, to USFWS
- ▶ Identify potential collaborations with Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI)
- ▶ Identify potential partnerships
 - Pilot project?
- ▶ Follow-up data call – update on ‘problem’ INRMPs

Other Simmering Issues

INRMP/Sikes Issues
Natural Resources Strategy
NR Metrics
Conservation Funding
Tools and Training



INRMP/Sikes Issues

Tripartite MOU
INRMP Implementation Manual
Coordination with USFWS Draft Sikes Guidance



Tripartite MOU

- ▶ Roles and responsibilities of the tripartite members (DoD, USFWS, AFWA)
- ▶ Standardized procedures
- ▶ Increased consistency
- ▶ Streamlined review

INRMP Implementation Manual

- ▶ General INRMP provisions
 - Coordination, review and public comment
 - Implementation and special management
 - INRMP contents
 - Ecosystem-based management
- ▶ Formal Coordination – Winter 2012



We sent the draft Manual to the Military Services for one last informal review in mid-June.

We expect formal coordination to begin by early Fall.

Coordination with USFWS Draft Sikes Guidance

Background

- ▶ 335 Installations require INRMPs

Key Issues

- ▶ Expedited review of INRMP revisions
- ▶ Consistency of definitions
 - Compliant INRMP
 - Revision
 - Review as to Operation and Effect
- ▶ Nature and timing of reviews for operation and effect
- ▶ How to address environmental contaminants
- ▶ USFWS input to annual Focus Area metrics



The USFWS issued updated draft Sikes guidance in September 2010. Bryan Arroyo, AD Habitat Conservation, has ensured us that it will not be finalized until all Parties concur.

We have identified some key DoD concerns with this guidance. USFWS needs to work with DoD to resolve these concerns before their guidance is finalized.

We reached agreement on how to address environmental contaminants – mostly by reference.

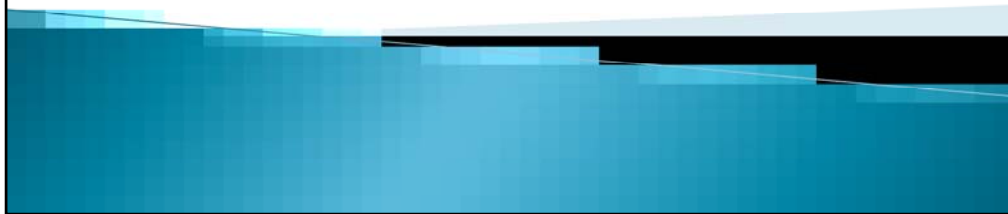
We also reached agreement to formalize an expedited process for INRMP review via the updated Tripartite MOU. Our goal is to complete the MOU before the September 2012 AFWA national meeting.

DoD Natural Resources Strategy

Goal – Collaborate with the DoD Components to
develop a 3–5 year strategy of the DoD Natural
Resources Program

Kickoff – October 2012

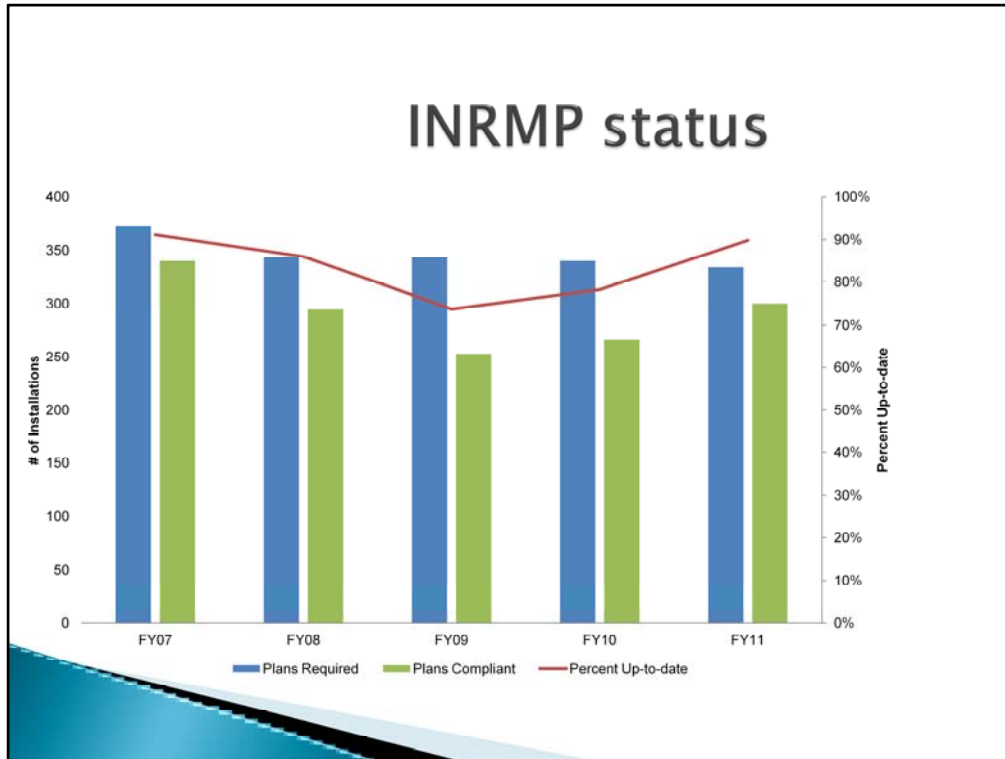
Mission, vision, goals, objectives, specific
actions, timeline



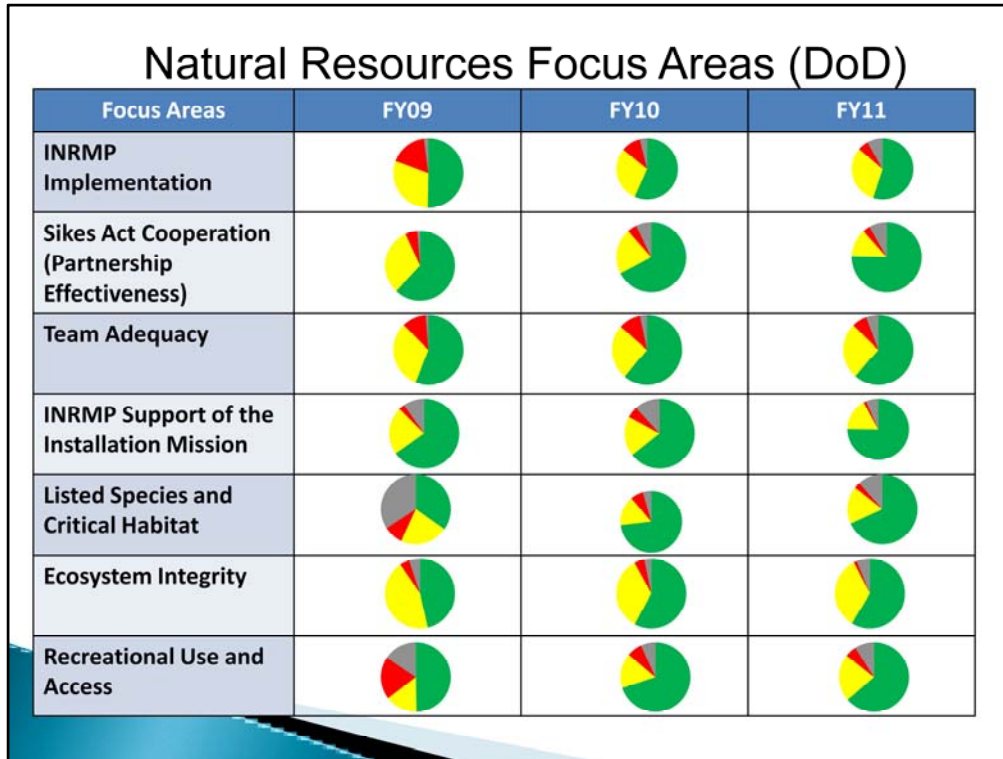
Natural Resources Metrics

Evaluate effectiveness of natural resources
support to the military mission
Assess overall health and trends of each
installation's natural resources program
Identify and correct potential funding and
other resource shortfalls





Program Oversight is the 2nd NR Priority.



This was the first year the Military Services reported trend data on the 7 Focus Areas.

These are the summary results for all 335 installations with INRMPs.

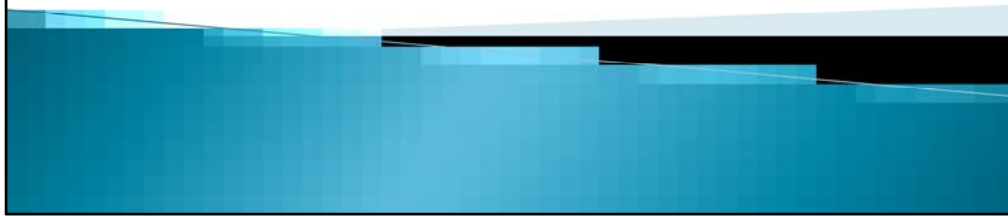
Metrics Next Steps

- ▶ Revised Focus Area definitions
 - In place for FY 12 Environmental Management Review (EMR)
- ▶ Improved consistency in defining program health (G-Y-R)
 - Consistent definitions
 - Scoring flow chart
 - Optional for FY 12

We plan to continue to fine tune and update the current metrics.

We kicked off this project in mid-June.

Conservation Funding



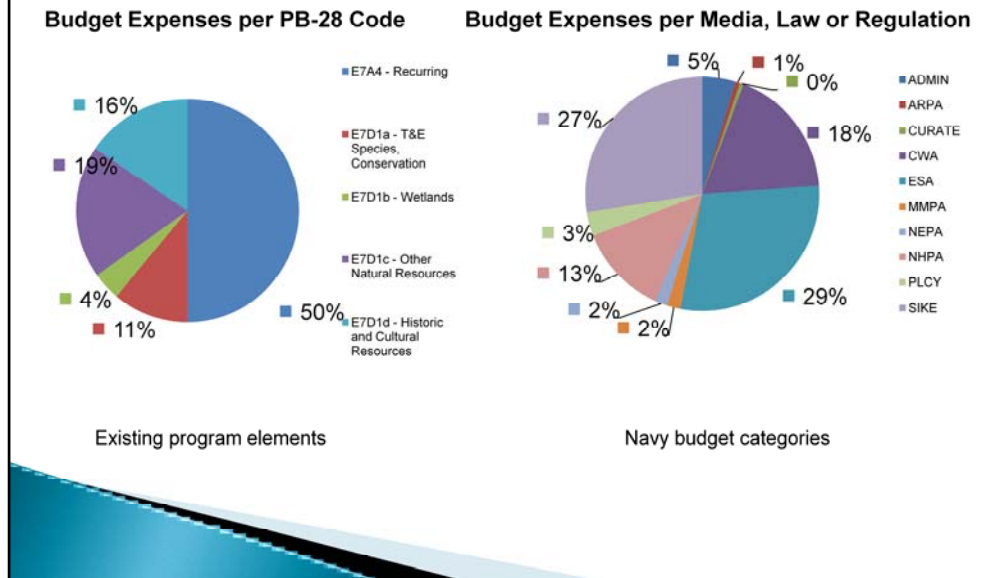
Conservation Expenditures

Front office query – what do we get for this level of investment?

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
REQUEST	\$320M	\$380M	\$379M
APPROP	\$325M	\$408M	
ACTUAL	\$394M		

We are looking more closely at the DoD Components' overall Conservation budgets. – what they budgeted, what they received, what they actually spent.

Two Ways to Track Conservation Expenditures



A PB-28 Working Group spent the last 6 months evaluating the program elements and definitions for Compliance, Pollution Prevention and Conservation (NR/CR).

Natural Resources Conservation Compliance Program Elements

PROPOSED

Natural Resources Pillar				
Program Area (Congressional Level)	Legal Drivers	Sub-Programs (DoD Level)	Activities (DoD Component Level)	Description
Mangrove		Contractor		U.S. government civilian, local national civilian, military A1 and service contract manpower costs applicable to management of the environmental compliance program. Applicable contracted civilians refer to manpower needed to support the overall compliance program. This category includes all civilian and military manpower costs, but it does not include contract manpower costs associated with discrete, short-term, project, site or study efforts.
		Civilian Government		Example 1: Report under Miscellaneous the government and contract support that covers management and/or implementation of multiple National Resource Programs. Example 2: Report under a specific Program Area the contract support required to deliver a discrete requirement under that program area. (e.g., support for Threatened and Endangered Species Program only).
Threatened and Endangered Species	Endangered Species Act	Threatened and Endangered Species Committee System, Species at Risk	Assessment/Study (e.g., species inventory), Data collection and management, Outreach, Management Plans (e.g., endangered species management plans), Monitoring, Program-specific Activities (habitat/species management), Biological System	The purpose of the ESA is to protect and recover imperiled species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. It is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries). As a federal agency, the DoD is required to identify and protect the threatened or endangered species on its lands or in its waters, as well as all other listed species that it may possess elsewhere.
Wetlands	Clean Water Act	Wetlands	Assessment/Study, Data collection and management, Monitoring, Permit and Plan, Other Program specific Activities, Wetlands mitigation, Wetlands restoration	Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. Activities include fill for development, major resource projects (such as dams and levees), infrastructure development (such as highways and airports) and mining projects. Section 404 requires a permit before dredged or fill material may be discharged into waters of the United States, unless the activity is exempt from Section 404 regulation (e.g., certain farming and forestry activities).

As of June 1, there is tentative agreement to:

- Split NR and CR
- Ask the DoD Components to do a Beta test on these new Program Elements and definitions.

Natural Resources Conservation Compliance Program Elements PROPOSED

Natural Resources Pillar				
Program Area (Organizational Level)	Legal Drivers	Sub-Programs (PEP Level)	Activities (Staff Functional Area)	Description
Integrated Natural Resource Planning	State Act	Integrated Natural Resource Planning	Investigation Plans (e.g., surveys, monitoring (e.g., invasive species, vegetation, fish and wildlife), Permit and Fees Conservation Law Enforcement and compliance Inventory Program specific Activities: General Plans, Future and Habitat management, Wildlife Species Control, Fisheries conservation and management, Forestry	The State Act requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to prepare and implement Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) for all installations with "significant natural resources" in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the States. The State Act states that INRMPs shall reflect the mutual agreement on the management of natural resources, by installation commanders, the USFWS, and the States. Military installations develop plans that will effectively conserve fish and wildlife resources and promote compatible outdoor recreation, while enforcing military preparedness through improved stewardship of the land.
	Marine Mammal Protection Act	Marine Mammal Protection	Investigations/Drifts, Rescue/Recovery Permit and Fees, Mitigation Monitoring, Reporting	The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) prohibits, with certain exceptions, the hunt, capture, kill, or harassment of marine mammals in U.S. waters and by U.S. citizens on the high seas, and the introduction of marine mammals and marine mammal products into the U.S.
Other Natural Resources	Other legislative requirements: MMPA - Migratory Bird Treaty Act, BCEPA - Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	Other Natural Resources	Monitoring, Permits, Outreach	The MMPA establishes a prohibition, unless permitted by regulations, to harass, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage, or import, export, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms of this Convention... for the protection of migratory birds or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird. MMPA prohibits the "take" (usually defined as hunt or golden eagles.

Currently unresolved – should Natural and Cultural be separate?

Page 2 of the proposed new PEs.

Tools and Training

Tools and Training is the 3rd NR Priority.

Natural Resources Courses

PREVIOUSLY OFFERED

- ▶ Sikes Act 101
- ▶ Sikes Implementation
- ▶ Endangered Species Act for DoD
- ▶ Course materials available on-line
 - <http://www.Dodworkshops.org/Training.html>
- ▶ No additional Legacy-sponsored course offerings projected
- ▶ Evaluating alternative training methods
 - e.g., webinars



We've developed three new training courses.

Current front office philosophy – OSD is not in the training business.

Recent Informational Workshops

- ▶ Pollinators
- ▶ Plant Conservation
- ▶ Invasive Weeds
- ▶ Climate Change Tools
- ▶ White-nose Syndrome
- ▶ PARC Implementation



We continue to provide workshops on “hot” NR conservation topics.

Workshop materials are available on line.

2013 Sustaining Military Readiness Conference



SMR 2011 was held in Nashville, July 25-29.

In response to the GSA conference scandal, SMR 2013 planning has been suspended/

It is unlikely to reemerge in the same format.

More likely – attaching DoD sessions to non-DoD-sponsored events.

Websites

- ▶ **DoDNaturalResources.net**
 - New NR program fact sheets
 - Links to info on Invasives, Pollinators, DoD PIF, DoD PARC
- ▶ **DENIX.osd.mil/NaturalResources**
 - Reorganization underway
- ▶ **DoDLegacy.org**
 - Final project fact sheets and products
 - Current projects
 - FY 2013 RFP
 - Preproposals were due August 30



We're working to distribute NR program info through as many different venues and formats as possible.

NR Program Fact Sheets

- ▶ Natural Resources Program
- ▶ T&E Species on DoD Lands
- ▶ INRMPs
- ▶ Species at-risk
- ▶ Invasive Species and DoD
- ▶ Pollinators
- ▶ DoD's response to Climate Change
- ▶ State fact sheets

These program fact sheets are available on <http://www.DoDNaturalResources.net>

Natural Selections



- ▶ Spring/Summer 2012
 - Policy Focus
- ▶ Fall 2012 – in preparation
 - Marine Mammals
- ▶ Complemented by Natural Resources and Legacy “Blasts”
- ▶ Seek your feedback and contributions

We restructured how and when we communicate different types of information.

We’ll use both email blasts and a newly revised quarterly newsletter.

Due to resource restrictions, we will incorporate *Steppingstones* into *Natural Selections*, starting with the Summer 2012 issue.

Social Media

- ▶ DoD Facebook
 - Armed with Science
- ▶ DoD Blog
- ▶ Twitter
 - <http://twitter.com/#!/DoDNatRes>

We hope you'll be seeing more soon for each of these current initiatives.

Animation Videos

- ▶ **The DoD Natural Resources Program**
 - The DoD Natural Resources Program produced a video to highlight specific examples of what DoD is doing to benefit both mission and conservation objectives. The video's goal is to highlight projects that demonstrate how natural resources projects help sustain the mission.
- ▶ **DoD Responding to Climate Change**
 - Through the Legacy and SERDP Programs, DoD is implementing several strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts. This video introduces climate change and features projects on sea level rise and threatened and endangered species, as well as an overview of DoD's conservation funding programs.
- ▶ <http://dodnaturalresources.net/Animation.html>

Wildlife Trade Videos

- ▶ Caught in the Crosshairs: Combating the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Iraq & Afghanistan
- ▶ The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) advised the Department of Defense on threats posed by the illegal wildlife trade to the overall combat mission in Iraq and Afghanistan. A new video, narrated by acclaimed actor/director and United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity Edward Norton, informs U.S. military personnel about the consequences of buying illegal wildlife products when deployed or stationed overseas.
- ▶ For more information and the full-length video, go to:
www.wcswildlifetrade.org/military
- ▶ For a link to the 5-minute version on WCS YouTube:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zipNe0rnu3E>

Questions?



Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.